

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved print image, comprising:

an original image including a plurality of original pixels comprising at least one shape, the shape having at least one edge forming an interior and an exterior to the shape; and

a fringe field tailoring pixel including a sub-pixel pattern having both "on" and "off" sub-pixel values, replacing one of the plurality of original pixels, the fringe field tailoring pixel being arranged exterior and adjacent to the shape edge for enhancing the printing of the original image.

2. (Original) The improved print image of claim 1, wherein the sub-pixel pattern comprises at least two pulses.

3. (Currently Amended) The improved print image of claim 1, wherein the sub-pixel pattern ~~is~~ comprises one-quarter pixel increments.

4. (Currently Amended) The improved print image of claim 1, wherein the sub-pixel pattern ~~is~~ comprises one-eighth pixel increments.

5. (Currently Amended) The improved print image of claim 1, wherein the sub-pixel pattern ~~is~~ comprises one-sixteenth pixel increments.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

⁶8. (Currently Amended) The improved print image of claim ⁶7¹, further comprising additional fringe field tailoring pixels, which are continuously adjacent along one of the edges and exterior of the original image shape.

⁷8. (Original) The improved print image of claim ⁶8, wherein the additional fringe field tailoring pixels are arranged in a pattern and substituted for a corresponding pattern of original pixels in the original image.

⁸10. (Currently Amended) The improved print image of claim ⁷9, wherein the pattern of additional fringe field tailoring ~~auxiliary~~ pixels is a dispersed array close to a shape edge found in the original image.

⁹11. (Currently Amended) The improved print image of claim ⁴7⁸, further comprising additional fringe field tailoring pixels, which are continuously adjacent along the leading and lagging edges and exterior of the original image shape.

¹⁰ ~~12~~. (Currently Amended) A method for improving the printing of an image, comprising:

receiving a source image comprising original pixel data; and
processing the source image original pixel data ~~to embed fringe field tailoring pixels having sub-pixel patterns by morphologically manipulating the original pixel data to substitute fringe field tailoring pixels for original data pixels~~ therein.

~~13~~. (Canceled)

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¹¹ ~~14~~. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~13~~¹⁰~~12~~, wherein the step of morphologically manipulating includes embedding fringe field tailoring pixels on the leading and lagging edges of image shapes.

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¹² ~~15~~. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~13~~¹⁰~~12~~, wherein the step of morphologically manipulating comprises:

storing the source image in a first memory space;
replicating the source image as a working image in a second memory space;
dilating the working image to produce a first resultant working image;
outlining the first resultant working image to produce outline pixels in a second resultant working image;
substituting fringe field tailoring pixels for the outline pixels in the second resultant working image; and,
performing an OR operation of the second resultant working image with the source image in the first memory space, to thus produce fringe field tailoring pixels in the source image at those pixel locations corresponding to the outline data in the second resultant working image.